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News Release

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2 Oklahoma men indicted for conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine

Two men from Oklahoma City were indicted yesterday in federal court for allegedly distributing the highly addictive and dangerous drug methamphetamine in the Twin Cities.

Jesus Rojo-Castro, 36, and Edgar Humberto Rojo-Sanchez, unknown age, were each charged with one count of conspiracy to distribute methamphetamine and two counts of distribution of methamphetamine. Their indictment alleges that from May 15 through May 30 they knowingly conspired with each other and with others to distribute 500 or more grams of methamphetamine.

The indictment also alleges that they knowingly and intentionally distributed methamphetamine on May 22 and on May 30.

According to a Federal Bureau of Investigation affidavit, authorities arranged a controlled purchase of methamphetamine from Rojo-Castro and Rojo-Sanchez on May 22 in Oklahoma City. Authorities learned that Rojo-Castro wanted to sell between 5-10 pounds of crystal methamphetamine for between approximately \$21,000 and \$23,000 per pound.

Police also learned that the narcotics would be driven to Minnesota, and on May 30, police arranged a controlled purchase. The original meeting place was at a fast-food restaurant in St. Paul, but was then moved to an apartment with a detached garage in St. Paul. With the vehicle parked in the garage, Rojo-Sanchez removed the methamphetamine from the vehicle's front dashboard and provided approximately 2 pounds of methamphetamine.

Rojo-Sanchez then left the garage, entered an apartment and presented another pound of methamphetamine. Rojo-Sanchez was then arrested. Rojo-Castro, the supplier, was arrested in Oklahoma City.

If convicted, Rojo-Castro and Rojo-Sanchez each face a potential maximum penalty of life in prison on the conspiracy count, life in prison on one distribution count because it involved

more than 500 grams, and 20 years on the second distribution count. All sentences are determined by a federal district court judge. This case is the result of an investigation by the FBI and the St. Paul Police Department. It is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Christian S. Wilton.

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An indictment is a determination by a grand jury that there is probable cause to believe that offenses have been committed by a defendant. A defendant, of course, is presumed innocent until he or she pleads guilty or is proven guilty at trial.